

CLAIMS:

1. A method for sensing individual intensity of a plurality of light sources, comprising:
transmitting a command signal to each of the light sources;
sequentially activating the light sources based on the command signals; and
determining an intensity value for each light source.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein sequentially activating the light sources comprises:
activating each light source individually for a predetermined activation period within an activation cycle.
3. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
determining a control signal based on the intensity value of each light source;
and
controlling the light sources with the control signal.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein determining the intensity value for each light source comprises:
receiving each light signal individually during the sequential activating period;
processing the received light signals; and
producing the intensity value for each light source based on the processed light signals.
5. The method of claim 4, wherein receiving the light signals comprises:
filtering each light signal individually during the sequential activating period;
collecting the filtered light signals; and
passing the collected light signals for processing.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein filtering each activated light signal is accomplished utilizing a multi-sectioned filter.
7. The method of claim 6, wherein the multi-sectioned filter includes a number of sections of at least the number of light sources.
8. The method of claim 6, wherein each section of the multi-sectioned filter is designed to filter a spectral portion of the light signals.
9. The method of claim 5, wherein the steps of filtering and collecting the light signals are accomplished utilizing a filter coupled to a single photodiode.
10. The method of claim 4, wherein processing the received light signals comprises:
 - converting the received light signals to digital light signals; and
 - analyzing the digital light signals to determine the intensity value for each light source.
11. The method of claim 10, wherein analyzing the received light signals comprises:
 - comparing the digital light signals to a reference value; and
 - determining the intensity value based on the comparison.
12. The method of claim 11, wherein the reference value is a predetermined value.

13. A computer readable medium storing a computer program comprising:
computer readable code for transmitting a command signal to each of the light sources;
computer readable code for sequentially activating the light sources based on the command signals; and
computer readable code for determining an intensity value for each light source.

14. The computer readable medium of claim 13, wherein computer readable code for sequentially activating the light sources based on the command signals comprises:
computer readable code for activating each light source individually for a predetermined activation period within an activation cycle.

15. The computer readable medium of claim 13, further comprising:
computer readable code for determining a control signal based on the intensity value of each light source; and
computer readable code for controlling the light sources with the control signal.

16. The computer readable medium of claim 13, wherein computer readable code for determining the intensity value for each light source comprises:
computer readable code for receiving each light signal individually during the sequential activating period;
computer readable code for processing the received light signals; and
computer readable code for producing the intensity value for each light source based on the processed light signals.

17. The computer readable medium of claim 14, wherein the computer readable code for processing the received light signals comprises:

computer readable code for converting the received light signals to digital light signals; and

computer readable code for analyzing the collected light signals to determine the intensity value for each light source.

18. The computer readable medium of claim 15, wherein the computer readable code for analyzing the received light signals comprises:

computer readable code for comparing the digital light signals to a reference value; and

computer readable code for determining the intensity value based on the comparison.

19. The computer readable medium of claim 16, wherein the reference value is a predetermined value.

20. A system for sensing intensity of a light source:
a plurality of light sources;
means for sequentially activating the light sources for a predetermined period of time; and
means for determining an intensity value for each of the light sources.